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# THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

OMAHA, MONDAY MORNING, JUNE 17, 1918.

THE WEATHER.

Cooler

On Trains, at Hotels, News Stands, Etc., 5c.

## AUSTRIAN THRUSTS FOILED

### HUNS HIT U. S. LINE IN ALSACE

American Machine Gunners and Rifleman Repulse attack on Sector Recently Occupied in German Territory.

(By Associated Press.)  
With the American Army in France, June 16.—Americans machine gunners and riflemen repulsed a German attack on the American sector in Alsace this morning.

About 600 German shock troops raided the American first line positions at the village of Xivray, in the Toul sector, early this morning. Some of the enemy got into Xivray, but were soon driven out. At other points the Germans were badly beaten.

The attack began at 3 o'clock in the morning after an extremely violent bombardment. The Germans advanced swiftly to the attack, but were met by a heavy fire. Those who penetrated Xivray were forced to withdraw, and elsewhere the enemy were completely repulsed in hard fighting lasting more than two hours.

**Fight With Bayonets.**  
According to prisoners the objective of the enemy was to take American prisoners. This failed, as no American is reported missing.

Evidently angered by the failure, the Germans continued an intermittent shelling of the villages in the rear throughout Sunday. Some of these points were not less than eight miles behind the line.

The American troops engaged at close quarters the small German force that entered Xivray. There was severe fighting with bayonets and clubbed rifles. The Germans left nine dead in the streets, and six prisoners were taken, two of them officers, one of whom was wounded.

An American observation balloon was shot down this morning by a shell from a German gun. There were no casualties as a result of the incident.

**Thiacourt Line Raided.**  
A German raiding party of 150 men and three officers attacked the American line south of Thiacourt at 2 a. m. Saturday. As a result the enemy lost at least 20 killed, of whom one officer and four men died in the American trenches. The American casualties were light and the Americans took one wounded prisoner.

The artillery firing in the Toul sector diminished last night. The visibility today was poor. It is confirmed that the American bombing airplane set afire the roundhouse at Conflance in the Friday afternoon raid.

German prisoners report that two German divisions which had been en route to the rear of their lines for several weeks' rest after taking part in the Chateau Thierry offensive suddenly were ordered back to the battle line. Their new orders were: "Hold back the Americans at any cost."

**British Line Shelled.**  
London, June 16.—The Germans late Saturday night carried out heavy bombardments against British positions north of Bethune and between Locre and the Ypres-Comines canal, says the British official communication issued today. The artillery was particularly active early Sunday in the neighborhood of Dickebusch lake.

**Held at Matz River.**  
Paris, June 16.—German troops attempted during the night to cross the Matz river near the Oise, but were halted by the fire of the French, says today's war office statement. In local actions northeast of the woods of Genlis, south of Dammarie and the region of Vinley (northwest of Chateau Thierry), the French took 70 prisoners and a number of machine guns.

**The Weather**  
For Nebraska: Partly cloudy Monday; much cooler in southeast portion; Tuesday unsettled.

Temperatures at Omaha yesterday.

Hour	Temp.	Wind	Clouds
1 a. m.	61	W 10	100
3 a. m.	60	W 10	100
5 a. m.	59	W 10	100
7 a. m.	58	W 10	100
9 a. m.	57	W 10	100
11 a. m.	56	W 10	100
1 p. m.	55	W 10	100
3 p. m.	54	W 10	100
5 p. m.	53	W 10	100
7 p. m.	52	W 10	100
9 p. m.	51	W 10	100
11 p. m.	50	W 10	100

Official record of temperature and precipitation compared with the corresponding period of the last three years.

Year	Temp.	Precip.
1918	51	.00
1917	51	.00
1916	51	.00
1915	51	.00

Lowest yesterday... 50  
Mean temperature... 54  
Precipitation... 0.00

Excess for the day... 0.00  
Total excess since March 1, 1918... 5.23  
Normal precipitation... 17.71  
Deficiency for the day... 17.71  
Total precipitation since March 1, 1918... 4.77  
Excess for the year... 4.77

### 'ROADS MILITARY ARM FIRST; SERVE PUBLIC NEXT,' M'ADDOO

Director General Declares He Hopes Future Development Will Humanize Science of Transportation and Negative the Idea That Corporations Have No Souls.

(By Associated Press.)

Washington, June 16.—In a comprehensive statement of policy made public today, Director General McAdoo declared the administration's aims in order of importance are to win the war by moving troops and war materials promptly, to give efficient service to the public, to promote sympathy and understanding between the railroad managements, employees and patrons, and to apply sound business policies to railway operation.

"The policy of the United States railroad administration," said the director general, "has been formed and shaped by a desire to accomplish the following purposes which are named in what I conceive to be the order of their importance:

"First, the winning of the war, which includes the prompt movement of the men and material that the government requires. To this everything else must be subordinated.

"Second, service of the public, which is the purpose for which the railroads were built and given the privileges accorded them. This implies the maintenance and improvement of the railroad properties so that adequate transportation facilities will be provided at the lowest cost, the object of the government being to furnish service rather than to make money.

"Third, the promotion of a spirit of sympathy and a better understanding as between the administration and the 2,000,000 employees and their 100,000,000 patrons, since transportation has become a prime and universal necessity of civilized existence.

"Fourth, the application of sound economic principles, including:

"(a) The elimination of superfluous expenditures;

"(b) The payment of a fair and living wage for services rendered and a just and prompt compensation for injuries received;

"(c) The purchase of material and equipment at the lowest prices consistent with a reasonable but not an excessive profit to the producer;

"(d) The adoption of a standardized equipment and the introduction of approved devices that will save life and labor;

"(e) The routing of freight and passenger traffic with due regard to the fact that a straight line is the shortest distance between two points;

"(f) The intensive employment of all equipment and a careful record and scientific study of the results obtained with a view to determining the comparative efficiency secured.

**Task Ahead Immense.**  
"The development of this policy will, of course, require time. The task to which the railroad administration has addressed itself is an immense one. It is as yet too early to judge of the results obtained, but I believe that great progress has been made toward the goal of our ideals. All of those who have had a share in this great work, including especially the members of my staff and the officers and employees of the railroads, have shown intelligence, public spirit, loyalty and enthusiasm in dealing with problems that have already been solved and attacking those that still await solution.

"With their continued co-operation, I feel assured of a future in which the lessons of our accumulated experience will be favorably employed to humanize the science of railroading and negative the idea that corporations have no souls."

**Captain, Wife and Crew of 12 Of Burned Ship Reach Port**  
San Francisco, June 16.—After having been 15 days at sea in a 24-foot boat, the crew of the burned five-masted schooner Crescent, with Captain T. Olson and his wife, calmly tied their craft up at a pier here late today and climbed stiffly up a ladder to shore and safety.

The crew had pulled at the oars steadily since the burning Crescent was abandoned June 1; Captain Olson had navigated, and Mrs. Olson had ported out their food stores with such precision that two days' full rations yet remained.

**Banker Cosgriff Dies.**  
Denver, Colo., June 16.—John B. Cosgriff, millionaire banker and stockman of Colorado, Wyoming and Utah, died at his home here last night after an illness of a year.

**Eugene V. Debs Praises I. W. W.; Terms Bolsheviki Comrades**  
Canton, O., June 16.—Eugene V. Debs, three times socialist candidate for the presidency, in addressing the closing session of the Ohio socialists convention here today, denied he had repudiated the party's St. Louis platform, which pledges opposition to conscription.

After paying tribute to the socialists who have gone to jail for their principles, he praised I. W. W. members, referred to the Bolsheviki as comrades and is said to have charged that the purposes of the allies in the war are the same as those of the central powers—plunder.

He predicted a crisis here, similar to that which placed the Bolsheviki in power.

J. J. Fried, Cleveland socialist, said Debs has approved a plan for American socialists' co-operation with the Bolsheviki by sending an army of 1,000,000 men to their assistance.

During Debs' address federal operatives seized and held for investigation 55 young socialists who could not show draft classification cards.

### HEAT WAVE BREAKS JUNE RECORD HERE

Omaha Swelters in Hottest Sunday for Seven Years With One Exception; Temperature Up to 105.

Omaha sweltered yesterday in the hottest June day on record in the history of the weather bureau in this city.

It paralleled the temperature of August 8, 1913, when the mercury ran up to 105, and with the exception of July 5, 1911, with a temperature of 107 degrees, Sunday was the hottest summer day ever known in Omaha.

The mercury rose to 105 degrees at 4 o'clock in the afternoon. In the coolest hour of the early morning the temperature did not go below 79. The average temperature for the day was 92 degrees.

**Highest June Record.**  
Prior to yesterday, the highest June temperature known was in 1911, when the mercury was up to 102. The normal June temperature for this city is 72.

Highest temperatures for the last eight years are given below:

July 5, 1911	107
July 14, 1912	102
August 8, 1913	105
July 12, 1914	100
July 14, 1915	96
August 4, 1916	100
July 28, 1917	101
June 16, 1918	105

Other parts of Nebraska reported high temperature records.

**People Rush to Parks.**  
People in the city flocked to the parks, eagerly seeking comfort and relief from the intensity of the heat.

Cars were packed throughout the afternoon with women and children and the street railway company did a land-office business.

Downtown streets practically were deserted. The heat that glowed up from the pavements in the sky-scraper district was "something fierce," to use the vernacular.

In the early afternoon, the gentle zephyrs stirred through the boughs and leaflets, but at 3 o'clock not a branch stirred and the air was abnormally close.

**People Are Forewarned.**  
The early morning gave assured indication of a severely hot spell, and to the precautions of the populace is to be attributed the few cases of heat prostrations. People ventured out only in automobiles and to catch a nearby car. In other instances, they sought the coolest portions of their homes and yards, and remained in the shade.

In the theaters all the available electric fans whirled and whizzed, but the audiences were not up to the usual Sunday pleasure-seeking attendance.

It was a municipal coatless day. In fact, the ultra decorous, unable to tolerate the languid heat, threw off coats and slung them over shoulders.

**Coatless in Cafes.**  
Cafe patrons wearing coats were decidedly few.

The more timid, accompanied by wives, merely cast an appealing look at a waiter and then—  
Presto!

Even in the more select restaurants, waiters in their characteristic kindly manner, suggested to the patrons that they would shock no rule of etiquette laid down in the Delicatore by removing their coats.

The sultry afternoon played havoc with Sunday evening prayer services. The Sunday church attendance suffered a jolt in decrease.

**Ice Apparently Plentiful.**  
Although there had been either a scarcity or hitch in deliveries of ice last week, there was nothing to indicate a scarcity of that necessity yesterday.

Patrons generally laid in a double supply. Soda fountains did a rushing business throughout the day.

Although Hoover regulations had eliminated quite a number of favorite beverages, drug stores had a running demand for "anything, so it is cold."

**Mrs. Busch Reaches Cuba On Trip From Germany**  
A Cuban Port, June 16.—Mrs. Lilly Busch, widow of the late Adolphus Busch of St. Louis, arrived here Saturday from Germany on her way to the United States. Harry D. Hawes, an attorney of St. Louis, who accompanied Mrs. Busch, denied reports that she had donated \$1,000,000 to war relief in Germany.

**Paris Pelts American Troops With Flowers As They Go to Battle**  
Paris, June 16.—Paris has never been so enthusiastic about American soldiers as it showed itself to be last night, when soldiers in huge lorries filled with the soldiers from overseas crossed the city on their way to the front.

The Americans were pelted with flowers and cheered as the automobiles passed down the main boulevards.

### ALLIES BRAVELY WITHSTAND ATTACKS ON ITALIAN FRONT

Austrians With Strong Reinforcements Strive to Cross Piave River and Reach Venetian Plains, But Suffer Repulse at Nearly All Points; Italians Capture 3,000 Prisoners.

(By Associated Press.)

The Italian and allied armies are bravely sustaining the weight of the Austrian forces which are attacking along the front of the Italian theater from northwest of the Asiago plateau eastward to the Piave river and thence along that stream to where it joins the headwaters of the Adriatic sea, a front of nearly 100 miles.

The Austrians, having made extensive preparations for the drive by bringing up strong reinforcements, many of them coming from the former battle line in Roumania and Galicia as a result of the debacle in the east, is using them without stint in the effort to debouch from the mountain passes and cross the Piave river and gain the Venetian plains.

Everywhere the fighting is of an extremely sanguinary character, especially east of the Asiago plateau, in the Brenta valley and on Monte Grappa.

**Allies Retake Lost Positions.**  
In the initial struggle the enemy succeeded in capturing several front line positions in the mountain region from the British and also in crossing the Piave. Counter attacks, however, have restored all the positions in the mountains, including territory to a depth of 1,000 yards along a 2,500-yard front captured from the British.

At last accounts the allied troops everywhere were strongly holding the enemy and King Victor Emmanuel's men were gallantly striving to throw back the invaders across the Piave. The Italians have taken more than 3,000 Austrian prisoners, among them, 89 officers.

As yet the Vienna war office has given only brief mention to the battle, saying that the Austrian armies had invaded the Sette Comuni plateau, lying at an altitude of 3,400 feet northwest of Asiago, and that up to noon Sunday more than 10,000 Italian, English and French soldiers and a considerable number of guns had been captured.

**Battle in West Halls.**  
With the commencement of the long expected Austrian offensive, the fighting in France has simmered down almost to sub-normal, except southwest of Soissons, where the French have delivered several violent attacks against the Germans holding territory captured last week.

Where the enemy a week ago was throwing thousands upon thousands of men against the allied lines between Montdidier and Noyon, Sunday saw him worn out with his useless efforts and his forces sadly depleted through men killed and wounded, unwilling or unable further to give battle.

In the famous St. Mihiel sector, where the Americans took over their first sector of the battle front, the Germans delivered a stroke and were rewarded by being able to gain the village. Soon afterward, however, they were expelled and the position regained. Prisoners were taken from the Germans, who in their anger, throughout Sunday "strafed" villages in the rear with their artillery.

Probably having in mind President Wilson's promise that the war should not be ended until wrongs of Alsace-Lorraine are righted, forces of American troops now are deeply involved in the picturesque territory of Alsace. They have been there since May 21, and possibly sensing the importance of the move, both from the strategic and moral standpoint, the Germans already have delivered an attack against them.

The American casualties were light. In Macedonia the operations daily increase in importance. Along the greater part of the front there have been heavy reciprocal bombardments and Bulgarian troops several times have endeavored to penetrate the allied lines. All their efforts, however, met with ill success.

**Speeding Auto Wrecked in Collision With Wagon**  
Harry H. Hallstead, 1504 Burt street, was badly bruised and possibly injured internally when an automobile he was driving collided with a wagon driven by Ike Kohn, 2606 N. street, and turned over several times, late Saturday night. The accident happened at Twenty-fourth and N streets.

Witnesses allege that the car, which is owned by the Creighton garage, was being driven at a high speed when the accident happened. Another man, said to be R. T. Ritchie, escaped. Hallstead was taken to the South Omaha hospital.

**'U. S. Boasts Inspired Kaiser To Build Planes, Not Brag'—T. R.**  
Hartford, Conn., June 16.—Colonel Theodore Roosevelt, speaking at Trinity college at the Sunday services of the commencement exercises here today said that the boast that America would have 20,000 airplanes by this spring with General Pershing's men had stimulated Germany to build and not to brag.

From a letter he said he had learned that on a certain American sector there were no American airplanes and that German aviators flew over the American lines and sprayed the Americans with their machine guns. American officers fired back futilely with their revolvers.

"We owe this to the fact that last fall," he said, "we were announcing with Pershing's army this spring and the boast took in our people. It took in the Germans. Unlike our own people they built airplanes to meet it. Then the great drive began, and France and England had to make a rampart of the bodies of their best men to shield themselves and to shield us. They found the Germans had built the airplanes we were going to build and had not built."

### GIGANTIC BATTLE IN PROGRESS

Large Masses of Infantry Hurled Vainly Against Italian, British and French Positions in Italy.

(By Associated Press.)

Rome, June 16.—A battle of great violence, in which large masses of infantry are being used by the Austrians in an attempt to break through the Italian lines, in the eastern sector of Asiago plateau, in the Brenta valley and on Monte Grappa, is described in the official report from Italian headquarters today. The enemy's attacks were met in the advanced defensive area.

The Italian forces are firmly holding the Asiago front, according to the war office announcement. They have completely re-occupied their original positions on Asolone and Monte Solarola and are closely pressing the enemy who crossed the Piave.

**French Break Down Attacks.**  
The Austrians, after a violent bombardment, attacked the French positions, but the very efficacious fire of the French broke down the thrusts of the Austrian infantry.

The enemy casualties were heavy and in addition he left numerous prisoners in the hands of the French.

The battle is in progress along the whole front.

There were scenes of great enthusiasm in the Chamber of Deputies today when the minister of war, General Zupelli, announced the success of the Italian troops and the repulse of the enemy, despite its numerical superiority, on the greater part of the front. The whole house rose and applauded.

The war minister said that the capture of 3,000 prisoners was proof that the Italian troops were truly heroic.

**'Hold at any Cost,' Is Order.**  
Italian Headquarters in Northern Italy, Saturday, June 15.—The Austrian general offensive continues strong, particularly on the 65-mile front from Val Stagna to the sea with the greatest pressure on the Asiago plateau, Monte Grappa and along the Piave river. At many points the Italians forestalled the offensive. Nowhere has there been any surprise.

Three Austrian airplanes were downed over the Piave by one flier. "Hold at any cost" is the order that has been passed to the Italian troops as the Austrian offensive appears to develop all along the line of 117 miles with the use of gas and special liquid bombs.

The long comparative silence by the Austrians was broken precisely at 3:05 o'clock this morning by a violent cannonade, the sounds of which reached the cities of Verona, Vicenza and Venice.

While the exact geographic objectives of the Austrians as yet are conjectural, it seems evident that their earliest attack was heaviest against the positions in the upper Brenta river valley while in the Val Sugana region where the Brenta flows toward Bassano it is considered possible that Austria is following Field Marshal Conrad Von Hotzenzendorf's old plan of striking at the Italian plains through the Trentino district, of which the first classic move consists in obtaining possession of Val Stagna, Monte Tombo and Monte Grappa, following the Brenta river to the plains, and then attacking with three columns westerly along the valleys of the rivers Adige and Astico and also on the Asiago plateau.

Summing up the situation, it seems to be a renewal of the great battle for Italy's Alps which was left off last November, with the keys to the mightiest fortresses of Europe held by the Italians, who have spent the winter building fortifications.

**British Line Restored.**  
London, June 16.—The Austrian troops who penetrated the line held by the British on the Italian front have been driven back and the British line has been completely re-established.

This announcement is made tonight in the official statement issued by the war office on the operations in Italy.

**Austrians Cross Piave River.**  
Vienna (via London), June 16.—Ten thousand Italian, English and French prisoners have been taken by the Austrians in their great offensive, according to the official communication from headquarters today. The Piave river has been crossed.

**Auto Crashes Against Pole; Dosey McNeely, Driver, Killed**  
Dosey McNeely, part owner of a pool hall in 2607 N. street, South Side, was instantly killed when an automobile which he was driving jumped over the curb and crashed into a telephone pole at Twenty-fourth and U streets at 3:45 a. m. Sunday. Five passengers in the car escaped without injury. The other occupants of the car were Raydel Green, Twenty-sixth and Grant streets; Marguerite White, 2425 Erskine street; Olga Henderson, 2425½ Lake street; John Walker, 2510 Lake street, and Martha Wright of Kansas City. All were negroes.